(b) and (c) NCCF of India Ltd. has informed that in the preliminary investigation of other charges no *prima facie* case has been established against this officer and therefore they were not referred to the Central Vigilance Commission.

Chit system in Punjab

1210. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is 'Chit' system in Punjab under which farmers are cheated by Commission agents of farm produce and the henchmen of such agents in farm imputs business;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) what is the estimated amount of the transactions in this recket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected, and will be laid on the Table of the house.

Setting up of food processing units in other states

1211. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the reasons for permitting the operation of Pepsicola in Punjab is that Government felt the need for the diversification of agriculture in that State;

(b) if so, the modalities of the new agricultural product mix with reference to the State;

(c) whether any other State in the country has been identified for similar diversification; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) While approving the application of M/s. Punjab Agro Industries Corporation for setting up a joint venture with Tatas and M/s. PEPSICO Inc. USA in Punjab, Government had taken into account the situation in Punjab which, amongst other factors, required the promotion of a climate for diversification of agriculture. It is expected that with the setting up of the project, such a climate for diversification will get created to some extent.

Any similar proposals from other States would be considered by the Central Government in accordance with the policy from time to time.

Loss suffered by the State farmers of India Ltd.

1212. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the accumulated loss of State Farmers of India Ltd., the wholly owned by Government undertaking, upto 31.3.1988;

(b) what were its annual losses and share capital year-wise from 1.4.85 to 31.3 89; and what was the value of its total sales for each year during that period;

(c) what prevents Government from liquidising the company; and

(d) the names of the Chairman and Managing Director of the Company specifying the duration of their tenures and the qualifications they had for holding such office?